17th February 1955]

Tellicherry Government Hospital

* 772 *Q.*—Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the construction of any extra block or additional wards has been sanctioned for the Tellicherry Government Hospital;

(*b*) if so, when; and

(*c*) whether the work has been completed or commenced?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Does not arise."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, it was only the other day that statistics were given regarding the Tellicherry hospital, namely, 180 floating in-patient strength as against the sanctioned strength of 88. A similar answer was given last year also. Now this excessive over-crowding is creating almost choking conditions. Would Government consider the idea of having an extra block immediately? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, there are very many other hospitals which are overcrowded. If any of the local gentlemen would put up buildings, we can have an extra block maintained by Government."

Mechanized farms

* 773 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether this Government advocated the constitution of mechanized farms in the State during the Conference of State's Ministers of Agriculture held in September 1953?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The answer is 'No, Sir'."

Salary of village officials

* 774 *Q.*—Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 1323, dated 30th July 1953—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken any decision on refixing the salary of village officials of proprietary villages on a par with that of those in Government villages; and

(*b*) if so, whether the decision has been given effect to?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" The whole question is proposed to be considered as a Part II Scheme for 1955–56."

Malaria in Kottayam taluk

* 775 *Q.*—Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are taking any Malaria Control measures in Kottayam taluk, Malabar district;

[17th February 1955

(*b*) if so, in which area; and

(*c*) for how long paludrine or quinine is being distributed in the area free to the poor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) An area of 70 square miles comprising the villages of Payam, Aralam, Manathana and Kolyad Vekkalam.

" (*c*) Since 1948."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, since it has been brought to my notice in my constituency that in the adjoining villages there is widespread malaria and that there is no D.D.T., no treatment nor free supply of quinine or paludrine, may I request the Hon. Minister to extend the supply of paludrine and also DDT to the neighbouring villages also? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This scheme covers all the malaria affected villages in that taluk. Only the foot-hill regions of the Western Ghats in the taluk are endemic for malaria."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" Sir, is it a fact that DDT is not as effective as it was before and if so, have the Government any other medicine for controlling malaria? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, DDT as used in the present form is quite effective in killing malaria mosquitoes."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, may I know what steps the Central Government are taking to control malaria? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Central Government have sponsored the National Malaria Control Programme from which assistance is being given to the State Governments."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, evidently, the regions declared as endemic for malaria are not exhaustive. That is why I am suggesting that additional villages adjoining those areas now covered by this campaign may also be included."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, if the hon. Gentleman writes to the Government, I shall have the matter enquired into."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" Sir, are not pyrethrum products effective remedies against mosquitoes? Are not pyrethrum products available for the Government? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is a different question. I have no objection if the Hon. Minister is prepared to answer."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, we are using DDT for destroying mosquitoes."